

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, the Examiner notes that every component of the drawings should be addressed in the Specification with reference to components 137 and 147 of FIG. 1. Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the Specification on Page 19 at Line 19 wherein components 137 and 147 are described as comprising computer useable media.

Claims 1, 12, and 16, stand objected to for reciting the acronym "VTC." Claims 12-19 are canceled herein. The acronym "VTC" has been replaced throughout claims 1-11 with the designation -- virtual tape controller --.

Claims 1-19 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, due to use of the conditional claim element "operative if." Conditional claim element "operative if" has been replaced in claims 1-11 with the designation --when--.

Claims 12-19 stand rejected under 35 USC 101 as being directed to non-statutory matter. Claims 12-19 are canceled herein.

The Examiner indicated that claims 1-11 would be allowable if amended to overcome the afore-described rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. As described herein above, claims 1-11 are amended herein to cure the Section 112, second paragraph, rejections.

Applicants have amended claims 1-11 herein. Applicants have further cancelled claims 12-19 from further consideration in this application. Applicants are not conceding in this application that claims 12-19 are not patentable, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the examiner. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue claims 12-19 and other claims, in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

No new matter has been entered. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Having dealt with all of the outstanding objections and/or rejections of the claims, Applicants submit that the application as amended is in condition for allowance, and an allowance at an early date is respectfully solicited. In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them, or credit an overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 502262.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is herewith being electronically transmitted via Electronic Filing System to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

/Reena Mendez/
Signature

January 18, 2008
Date of Signature